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Letter dated 15 August 2018 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to Security Council resolution 2379 (2017), in which the Council requested me to establish an investigative team, headed by a special adviser, to support domestic efforts to hold Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL, also known as Da'esh) accountable by collecting, preserving and storing evidence in Iraq of acts that may amount to war crimes, crimes against humanity or genocide committed by the terrorist group ISIL in Iraq.

The Security Council also requested that, following the approval by the Council of the terms of reference of the Investigative Team, I undertake without delay the steps, measures and arrangements necessary for the speedy establishment and full functioning of the Team, and notify the Council when the Team begins its work.

Following the approval by the Security Council of the terms of reference of the Investigative Team on 14 February 2018, I appointed Karim Asad Ahmad Khan (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) as Special Adviser and Head of the Investigative Team on 13 July 2018. The Special Adviser has been working, in close coordination with the Secretariat, to establish a core start-up team, hold introductory meetings and prepare relevant budgetary documents, and undertook his first mission to Iraq from 6 to 14 August 2018.

In this regard, and following the mission of the Special Adviser to Iraq, I have the honour to notify the Security Council that the Investigative Team will begin its work on 20 August 2018.

I should be grateful if you would bring the present letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) António **Guterres**

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